

What is claimed is:

1. A seat assembly (10) comprising:

a seat cushion (12) having laterally spaced side members (22, 24) and a front cross member (26) connected to and spanning between the side members (22, 24);

front legs (30, 32) pivotally coupled to the front cross member (26);

a boss (58) formed on the front cross member (26); and

a guide tube (50) positioned around the front cross member (26) and attached to the front leg (30), the guide tube (50) including a guide slot (52) adapted to engage the boss (58), wherein the seat cushion (12) is automatically laterally displaced relative to the front legs (30, 32) in response to pivotal movement of the seat cushion (12) relative to the front legs (22, 24).

2. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 1 wherein the guide slot (52) comprises a helical cam surface (154).

3. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 2 further including a biasing member (160) associated with the front cross member (26) for maintaining engagement of the boss (58) and the helical cam surface (154).

4. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 1 wherein the guide slot (52) comprises spaced apart helical cam surfaces (54, 56).

5. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 4 wherein the boss (58) is disposed within the guide slot (52) and engages the helical cam surfaces (54, 56) for translating the front cross member (26) laterally.

6. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 1 further including front brackets (33) attached to a floor of a vehicle, the front brackets (33) pivotally coupled to the front legs (30, 32).

---

7. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 6 further including front braces (80) attached to the front cross member (26) at a first end (86) and engaging slots (84) formed in the front brackets (33) at a second end (82).

8. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 7 further including a biasing member (88) associated with the front leg (30) and front brace (80) for maintaining the second end (82) of the brace (80) in engagement with the slot (84) formed in the front bracket (33).

9. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 7 wherein pivotal movement of the seat cushion (12) relative to the front legs (30, 32) causes the front braces (80) to disengage from the slots (84) formed in the front brackets (33).

10. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 9 wherein further pivotal movement of the seat cushion (12) after disengagement of the front braces (80) from the slots (84) formed in the front brackets (33) allows for positioning the seat assembly (10) in a forward stowed position within a recess formed in the floor of the vehicle.

11. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 1 further including rear legs (64, 66) pivotally coupled to the laterally spaced side members (22, 24).

12. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 11 further including at least one link (76) connecting a rear leg (64) and a front leg (30) for moving the rear legs (64) between a support position and a stowed position in response to pivotal movement of the seat cushion (12)..

13. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 11 further including a rod (63) connecting the rear legs (64, 66) for coordinating movement of the rear legs (64, 66) between support and stowed positions.

---

14. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 1 further including an assist spring (60) associated with the front cross member (26) and front leg (32) for aiding movement of the seat cushion (12) between seating and forwardly dumped positions.

15. A seat assembly (10) comprising:

a seat cushion (12) having laterally spaced side members (22, 24) and a front cross member (26) connected to and spanning between the side members (22, 24);

front legs (30, 32) pivotally coupled to the front cross member (26);

a boss (58) formed on the front cross member (26); and

a guide tube (50) positioned around the front cross member (26) and attached to the front leg (30), the guide tube (50) including a guide slot (52) adapted to engage the boss (58), the boss (58) engaging the guide slot (52) in a seating position wherein pivotal movement of the seat cushion (12) to a forwardly dumped position translates to pivotal motion of the front cross member (26) resulting in an interaction of the boss (58) and guide slot (52) for translating the seat cushion (12) laterally.